

Categories	PM2.5 (1-hr ave.) ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	Visibility (miles)
Good	0-40	10 miles and up
Moderate	41-80	6 to 9 miles
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	81-175	3 to 5 miles
Unhealthy	176-300	1½ to 2½ miles
Very Unhealthy	301-500	1 to 1 ¼ mile
Hazardous	Over 500	¾ mile or less

The procedure for making personal observation to determine the forest fire smoke index value for local areas without official monitors is:

1. Face away from the sun.
2. Determine the limit of your visible range by looking for targets at known distance (miles). Visible range is that point at which even high contrast objects totally disappear.
3. Use the values above to determine the local forest fire smoke category.